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SENATE MEMORIAL 6

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

Cisco McSorley

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 31, 2008 AS "FARM AND RANCH WORKERS' DAY" AT
THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, agriculture's contribution to New Mexico's
heritage and economic health is well known; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the farm and ranch community had product
sales totaling two billion six hundred million dollars
(\$2,600,000,000); and

WHEREAS, major farm production in New Mexico includes
cattle, sheep and wool, dairies and dairy products, alfalfa and
other hays, wheat, sorghum, cotton, chile, pecans, lettuce,
corn and onions; and

WHEREAS, the production of many of these products would
not be possible without the approximately twelve thousand farm
and ranch workers in New Mexico; and

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1 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers in New Mexico have been
2 tending crops and livestock for more than ninety years, when
3 large-scale agriculture began in this state; and

4 WHEREAS, during this time, farm and ranch workers have
5 been the backbone of much of the farming and ranching
6 industries; and

7 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers labor in one of the most
8 dangerous occupations in the nation and each year one hundred
9 twenty thousand agricultural workers suffer disabling injuries
10 from work-related accidents; and

11 WHEREAS, many farm and ranch workers earn an income that
12 is well below the poverty line; and

13 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers receive little recognition
14 for their work; and

15 WHEREAS, all New Mexicans benefit from the labor of farm
16 and ranch workers;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
18 OF NEW MEXICO that January 31, 2008 be declared "Farm and Ranch
19 Workers' Day" at the senate to honor these hard-working people
20 who play an important role in New Mexico's economy.